

MA IN THE NEWS

MR. JOHNSON'S DAILY ADVISER
ON FOUR WORLDS

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT—WASHINGTON, JUNE 19

Mr. Richard Helms, the spy whom President Johnson brought in from the cold yesterday to be Director of the Central Intelligence Agency, is a professional who has been in the business longer than the agency itself. Of course few C.I.A. men actually spy—the dirty work is done by foreigners for the most part—but he is the first to emerge from their somewhat contrived anonymity to lead the world's largest intelligence organization in the warm glow of publicity and the heat of public responsibility.

He is not the first professional to be appointed director. Mr. Allen Dulles was trained in the craft during the two world wars. He had a flair for the business that almost amounted to a vocation, but he was never in the cold.

The brother of the late Secretary of State is also a cultivated and gregarious man who loves good company and appeared at the best Washington parties even when he was planning to depose some foreign government.

Mr. Helms is an organization man. He was for a short time a foreign correspondent and newspaper executive, but joined the naval intelligence in 1942 and the Office of Strategic Services in the following year. That was in the good old days when intelligence men had a certain wartime élan, and afterwards he disappeared, first into the Central Intelligence Group and then the C.I.A. when it was established by Act of Congress in 1949.

'Eye on Congress'

Now 53, and with 24 years of intelligence work behind him, Mr. Helms is to be more than the director of an agency with an estimated annual housekeeping budget of \$500m. He will preside over what is known

as the intelligence community, which includes the defence intelligence and other agencies.

He will be responsible for informing the President daily of the state of the world, or rather worlds; the cold war world of east-west relations, the hot war world of Vietnam, where the agency performs 101 tasks, and the nether world of black operations or dirty tricks. He will also have to keep the Congressional world fairly sweet, which will not be easy with two committee chairmen squabbling over jurisdiction.

This is the corporate nature of his new executive world, but there can be more to the job than that. Mr. Dulles helped at the highest levels of decision-making and opened every meeting of the National Security Council with a review of the problems facing the President and the options open. The Director of the C.I.A. is not a statutory member of the council, and Mr. Dulles's successor, Mr. John McCone, played a more cautious role.

Drop in morale

Admiral William Raborn, who is now to return to the business world of California, showed little of the flair that some sailors have for intelligence. He was content to improve the agency's working procedures and defend it in Congress.

The agency's morale declined after the Cuban invasion of 1961 and Mr. Dulles's departure to a point where it complained that it was being maligned by a branch of Soviet intelligence set up for that malicious purpose. It became what many people thought it should always have been, a collector of intelligence with a very restricted role in policy-making. The dirty tricks continued, especially in Vietnam, but there were no more invasions.

Mr. Helms is obviously well equipped to improve the agency's morale. He was assistant to Mr. Richard Bissell, the Director for Plans, and succeeded him after the Cuban affair. He is therefore well experienced in the black operations of the agency as well as its quieter activities. He might well take part in the formulation of national security policy if only because President Johnson enjoys a proliferation of advisers.

**Schools integration**